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Estates Land Act

Amending Bill to the Estates Land Act.

*1463 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the opinion of the Board of Revenue upon the draft Bill to amend the Estates Land Act;

(b) whether they have considered the Bill in the light of the Board's remarks; and

(c) whether they propose to take steps to introduce the Bill in the January sitting of the Legislative Council?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 1247-A.

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao:—"May I know whether Government will place on the table of the House the draft Bill of the Government together with the opinion of the Board of Revenue sought for?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"As soon as the draft Bill is ready, it will be published."

Mr. S. Satyamurti:—"As at present advised, may I know when the Bill will be ready for publication?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"As Government are now busy with the budget, they expect it to be ready in April."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao:—"May I know, Sir, whether the draft Bill is not yet ready? For, clause (a) says the draft Bill has been sent to the Board of Revenue for opinion. I want to know whether that draft Bill has not been considered yet together with the opinion of the Board of Revenue?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"No, Sir, the Government have not considered it yet."

Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government hope to be able to introduce this Bill during the lifetime of this Council?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"Yes, Sir."

Irrigation

Extent of land to be irrigated by the Tungabhadra Project.

*1464 Q.—Mr. C. Obi Reddi: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with regard to the Tungabhadra Project—

(a) whether any measures have been taken by the Government to ascertain districtwar the extent of land that would likely be brought under irrigable wet ayacut under the Tungabhadra canal when the project is completed;

(b) how many districts as at present outlined the contemplated canal has to irrigate, and what they are;

(c) whether any measures have been taken by the Government to ascertain in consultation with the ryots and in consultation with the agricultural authorities in each district the probable maximum and minimum water-rates for the single and double crop wet cultivation in the area to be irrigated by the contemplated Tungabhadra canal;

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(*d*) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to take measures in that direction ;

(*e*) whether there has been a report on this subject from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation ; and

(*f*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay the same on the table of this House ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Memorandum No. 16082-D/26-13, dated 6th January 1928, which has been placed on the Council table.

(*c*) & (*d*) It is premature to consider the question of water-rate till the results of the investigation on the engineering side which has been ordered are known.

(*e*) & (*f*) The answer to clause (*e*) is in the negative.

Mr. C. Obi Reddi :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), may I know whether any report has been called for from the Irrigation Chief Engineer ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" A staff has been appointed to investigate into the matter and they will submit a report."

Irrigation of lands in Coimbatore district from the water in the Mettur Reservoir.

* 1465 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any report has been received from the Chief Engineer at Mettur about the irrigation of some lands in the Coimbatore district to the west of the Cauvery from the water in the Mettur Reservoir and if so, to what effect ;

(*b*) whether the Government have come to any decision on the matter referred to in (*a*) and if so, to what effect ;

(*c*) whether the Government have passed any order asking the Chief Engineer at Mettur to make further investigation regarding the irrigation of some lands in the Salem district with water from the Mettur Reservoir ;

(*d*) whether the above order has been passed on any report from the Chief Engineer ; and

(*e*) if so, whether the Chief Engineer's report will be placed on the table of the House ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The only report on the subject is the one by the Chief Engineer (Irrigation), published with G.O. No. 1974 I., dated 16th December 1926, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) In paragraph 2 (i) of G.O. No. 2616 I., dated 19th October 1928, which was supplied to all M.L.C's., the Engineer-in-Chief, Cauvery-Mettur Project, was asked to report on the question of extension of irrigation in the Salem district from the Mettur reservoir. He reported that this investigation could not be undertaken by the project staff. The Government, therefore, sanctioned a special division for the purpose in G.O. No. 1 I., dated 2nd January 1929, which has been placed on the Editors' Table. This division will work under the Chief Engineer (Irrigation).